Lawrence Ochs 2639 Russell Street Berkeley CA 94705

Aug 30th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I live in San Francisco Bay Area. There are many, many independent providers here which helps keep broadband prices down in general. As a small business person, I use lmi.net from the East Bay.

Apparently there is a petition coming from the Big Companies asking for repeal of important parts of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. Look: it's hard enough to conduct business honestly in this current "business environment." I book tours of music groups in Europe. The internet is critical to that. Everyone who works at all in Europe knows that internet speeds and general efficiency here in USA are "primitive." Just terribly slow, among other things, when compared to "common" internet speeds in Europe (as well as in "backwater countries" in Asia.)

The FCC should be worrying about that, not increasing profits for big companies. With MORE competition, not less, someone might be motivated to speed up internet lines here, which would help the USA to be more competitive.

PLEASE drop the politics and / or the petty ideological leanings, and do the right thing.

Lawrence Ochs